

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
PANAMA BUREAU  
DRAWER 927  
APO MIAMI 34004

3 October 1986  
MPA 6020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report —Panama Bureau— September 1986

I. GENERAL

A. On 9 September the Panamanian Foreign Ministry delivered a note to the U.S. Embassy refusing the bureau's request for a frequency that will allow a microwave communications link to be established between the embassy and the bureau. We are currently attempting to find out the reasons for the refusal of what appeared to be a simple request. The ambassador took the matter up with President Delvalle on 19 September and the president promised to look into the matter and inform the ambassador of his findings. We had heard nothing further by month's end.

B. There is still no word on the Internet frequency request. Last unofficial word in August noted that this request had been sent to the joint military committee for review. We plan to pursue this request more actively pending resolution of our microwave frequency request.

C. Meanwhile, the Internet equipment hut located next to the 13-meter Internet dish has been placed on its foundation, and STS Sytems, Inc. was completing electronic installation at month's end.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Satellite monitoring played a major role in bureau operations during the month.

First, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid delivered a 3-hour and 47-minute state of the nation address that the bureau monitored live via ROSET from Mexican television. On 2 September, Mexican television carried a "flash" bulletin — later proven to be false — that Paraguayan President Stroessner had died.

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During the Nonaligned Conference in early September, the bureau observed numerous television feeds from Harare. On 4 September, for example, the bureau recorded nearly 8 hours of continuous feeds in various languages that showed world leaders' activities and speeches at the summit. Several cruising messages and FYI's were filed.

The bureau also intercepted feeds from German, French, and other television systems on the Karachi airport hijacking. The seemingly random scheduling of the feeds and lack of language capabilities at the bureau sharply limited operational output from the bureau, although substantial bureau resources were devoted to searching for and covering these feeds.

After Hong Kong Bureau's 7 September initial ZZ from AFP on the attempted assassination of Chilean President Pinochet, the bureau filed several Chilean TV reports monitored via ROSET on the incident, including an interview with Pinochet himself following the attack.

With the beginning of the UN General Assembly session on 22 September, the bureau began checking three and occasionally more satellites for relays of speeches from New York United Nations Television. We found that few speeches were carried live, at least on the satellites we were watching, and many were in languages the bureau cannot translate.

Overall, although the bureau's satellite monitoring efforts throughout the month did not result in substantial wordage, it provided the bureau with valuable cruising and operation experience in the relatively new area of satellite television monitoring.

The bureau's coverage of Central American press was simplified on 11 September following the installation of Nefax machines in Tegucigalpa, Guatemala City, and San Salvador by the bureau's chief technician. Monitors no longer have to rely on bureau contractors in those cities to read newspaper items over telephones.

The on-again, off-again talks between Salvadoran Government and rebel leaders held in Panama as well as the major players' statements and counterstatements occasioned extra coverage of both Salvadoran and Panamanian media during the week of 12 - 19 September.

#### B. Communications

The chief of the bureau's communications section has begun a training program for all operators on the IBM personal computer. The training course includes familiarization with all aspects of the IBM PC but concentrates on Bach and Sidekick.

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C. Lateral Services

1. With the arrival of our repaired IBM PC/XT, the bureau entered the Bach era. IBM system administrator [ ] has entered all bureau packages and local services into the Bach database. LSL maintenance has thus become much easier.

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2. At the request of the Southern Command's Office of Treaty Affairs, the bureau edited several tapes of a weekly Panamanian Defense Forces television program, compiling requested portions of six programs on one tape.

3. At the request of the 193d Brigade's G-2, the bureau provided a tape of the music and words to the FSLN national anthem. The tape was to be used in a briefing for visiting military dignitaries.

4. The bureau has handled numerous requests from the embassy for Panamanian reaction to recent remarks by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms calling for an investigation of the Panamanian military. To provide the best coverage possible, the bureau has also placed several additional Panamanian radios on temporary coverage.

D. Technical

From 1 to 9 September, Chief Technician [ ] traveled to the bureau's remote sites in San Salvador, Guatemala City, and Tegucigalpa to install Nefax facsimile equipment. Relay of Central American press material via the bureau's dedicated remote lines in place of commercial telephone calls will result in significant savings. On the operational side, we expect increased accuracy, improved selection, and a greater quantity of available material to be additional benefits. At month's end, the equipment was working well.

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## III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. As summer comes to an end, the bureau would like to note that three of its employees this summer marked their silver anniversary with the bureau: Senior cruising monitor [ ] on 9 July, Journeyman monitor [ ] on 6 August, and Chief Technician [ ] on 5 September.

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2. Editor trainee [ ] arrived on 29 September to begin his 12-week field training period.

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**B. Building and Grounds**

1. The Army's Department of Engineering and Housing (DEH) connected the new 50-ton chiller unit to the bureau for a 4-hour test period. The test was successful, but some minor work still needs to be done. The bureau has given DEH a 1 October deadline so this project, which began in 1980, can finally be completed.

2. Contractor Ceden0 & Choy has begun installation of a new suspended ceiling and new lighting fixtures in the halls. Estimated completion date is 6 October.

3. The 39,000-pound Internet equipment hut was installed by HTH Construction on 26 September. At month's end, Satellite Transmission Systems contractors were putting the finishing touches on the grounds surrounding the hut and 13-meter antenna and completing electronic installation. With the equipment hut's installation, the construction of the new Internet-related equipment will be completed.

**IV. VISITS**

To the bureau:

Chief/MOD [ ] and C/ICC [ ] 22 - 26 September.

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Chief/HED/ESG [ ] and HED managers [ ]  
29 September - 2 October.

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Colonel Joseph L.A. Fournier and Major Mark Michaelis of the 193d Brigade's Provost Marshal's office on 26 September.

**V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

On 26 September all available bureau staffers attended a "Hail and Farewell" cocktail reception at Ambassador Davis's residence. The ambassador apparently was impressed by the FBIS turnout. On two separate occasions following the reception, the ambassador mentioned that he was quite pleased at the FBIS participation and was happy to see FBIS becoming involved in embassy activities.

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[ ]  
Chief, Panama Bureau, FBIS

Attachment  
Production Report

## Panama Bureau Production Report for September 1986

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	438720
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	23240
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	935

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	11775.00 min.	90870.00 min.	202.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

## ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish	650
Buenos Aires REUTER in English	0

## CHILE

Santiago Television Service in Spanish	3760
Santiago REUTER in English	0

## CLANDESTINES

Clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador	0
Clandestine Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador	15130

## COLOMBIA

Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish	2540
Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish	0
Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish	3340
Bogota Television Service in Spanish	11350
Bogota REUTER in Spanish	220
Bogota REUTER in English	270

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish			3700
Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish			4590
COSTA RICA			
San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish	14240		
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish			2160
San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			3080
San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			1690
San Jose LIBERACION in Spanish			180
San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish			0
San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish			930
San Jose NICARAGUA HOY in Spanish			770
San Jose RUMBO in Spanish			5720
CUBA			
Havana International Service in Quechua	270		
Havana International Service in Spanish	46330		
Havana Domestic Service in Spanish	10590		
Havana PRENSA LATINA in English		4370	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		5920	
ECUADOR			
Quito Radio Quito in Spanish	1260		
Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish	2720		
Quito REUTER in Spanish		0	
Quito REUTER in English		0	
EL SALVADOR			
San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish	1450		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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San Salvador Channel 2 Television in Spanish	160		
San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish	17280		
San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish	1630		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish	5140		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish	16180		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish	8710		
San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish	1150		
San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish			890
San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish			0
San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish			3660
San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish			600

## FRANCE

Paris AFP in English		0	
Paris AFP in Spanish		11840	

## GERMANY

Hamburg DPA in Spanish		4110	
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## GUATEMALA

Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish	4910		
Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish	1110		
Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish	1540		
Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish			610
Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			3480

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
<b>HONDURAS</b>			
Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish	7350		
Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish	1350		
Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish	750		
Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish	220		
Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish	4660		
San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish			1030
San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish			1550
Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish			1700
Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish			480
<b>MEXICO</b>			
Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	5520		
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	35150		
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish		700	
Mexico City ENFOPRENSA in Spanish		230	
Mexico City REUTER in English		0	
Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish			1220
Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish			420
Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish			1390
Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish			1980
Mexico City THE NEWS in English			0
Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish			1720
<b>NICARAGUA</b>			
Managua International Service in Spanish	310		



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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish	9400		
Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish	1140		
Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish	24030		
Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish	3030		
Managua Television Feed in Spanish	1310		
Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish		1870	
Managua ANN in Spanish		7650	
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		1790	
Managua SALPRESS-NOTISAL in Spanish		210	
Managua BARRICADA in Spanish			23970
Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			2730
PANAMA			
Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish	4440		
Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish	14390		
Panama City Television Service in Spanish	910		
Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish	2640		
Panama City ACAN in Spanish		14320	
Panama City CRITICA in Spanish			670
Panama City DIALOGO SOCIAL in Spanish			0
Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish			550
Panama City EXTRA in Spanish			1300
Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish			2090
Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish			4350

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish		0
Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish		2380
Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish		2410
Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish		0
Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English		0
Panama City THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC in English		0

## PERU

Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	0	
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	0	
Lima REUTER in English		0
Lima REUTER in Spanish		0

## SPAIN

Madrid EFE in Spanish		7330
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## USSR

Moscow TASS in Spanish		0
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## VENEZUELA

Caracas Television Service in Spanish	4770	
Caracas REUTER in English		200
Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish		410
Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish		470

PANAMA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1986 -- ANNEXTOTALS FROM ROSET SOURCES:

## CHILE

Santiago Television Service in Spanish	3,760
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## COLOMBIA

Bogota Television Service in Spanish	10,590
Bogota REUTER in English	270
Bogota REUTER in Spanish	220

## CUBA

Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	5,920
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## MEXICO

Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	35,150
Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	5,520
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish	700
Mexico City ENFOPRENSA in Spanish	230

## NICARAGUA

Managua Television Feed in Spanish	1,310
Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish	1,870
Managua ANN in Spanish	7,650
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	1,790
Managua SALPRESS-NOTISAL in Spanish	210

## SPAIN

Madrid EFE in Spanish	1,420
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## VENEZUELA

Caracas Television Service in Spanish	4,770
Caracas REUTER in English	200

TOTAL FOR SEPTEMBER 1986

81,580